GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services - State Tax Department - Surprise check conducted on the Integrated Check Post, Naraharipet, Chittoor district on 21.12.2013 - Allegation of corruption and misconduct under APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 against Sri I.V.Ranga Rao, DCTO & AO (Retd.) and others - Common disciplinary proceedings under Rule 24 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991 against 15 SOs - Articles of charges framed - Inquiry Officer and Presenting Officer appointed - Inquiry report submitted - Charges not proved and disagreed with the findings of the I.O. - Imposed a penalty of withholding (02) two annual grade increments without cumulative effect against the 03 (three) Charged Officers i.e., 1) Sri Gangala Suresh Babu, ACTO (CT) (SO-2), 2) Sri Nagarajan Palani, Sr.Asst., & ACTO (FAC) (SO-4) and 3) Sri Vasagiri Madhusudhan, Motor Vehicle Inspector (SO-11), Transport Department - Orders - Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-VI) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 188 Dated: 04-03-2025

Read the following:-

1. From the DG, ACB, Lr.Rc.No.47/DE-S-TCT/2013, dt.22.06.2016.
2. G.O.Ms.No.323, Revenue (Vig-II) Dept., dt.07.09.2015.
3. G.O.Rt.Nos.800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814 and 815, Revenue (Vig-II) Dept., dt.07.09.2015.
4. G.O.Rt.No.99, Revenue (Vig-II) Dept., dt.12.01.2018.
5. G.O.Rt.No.100, Revenue (Vig-II) Dept., dt.12.01.2018.
6. From the CCTs Ref.No.V3/926/2013, dt.02.05.2019.
7. G.O.Rt.No.475, Revenue (Vig-II) Dept., dt.28.06.2022.
8. Govt.Memo.No.16199/Vig.II(3)/2015-Vig.II, dt.28.06.2020.
9. From the CC (ST) (FAC), Lr.Ref.No.V3/926/2013, dt.12.09.2022.
10. G.O.Rt.No.1075, Revenue (Vig.I) Dept., dt.19.12.2022.
11. From the CCST, Lr. Ref.No.V3/926/2013, dt.27.03.2023.
12. Govt.Memo.Nos.329734/16199/Vig.II(3)/2015-1 & 2, dt.08.09.2023.
13. G.O.Rt.No.544, Revenue (Vig.VI) Dept., dt.12.08.2024.
14. Written representations received from the Charged Officers through CCST Ref No.V2/926/2013, dt.24.01.2024.

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ORDER:

Whereas, the Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau in the reference 1st read above has reported that based on credible information regarding corrupt practices and the collection of bribes by staff at the Integrated Check Post, Naraharipet, Chittoor dist., a surprise check was conducted on 21.12.2013. This surprise check revealed irregularities in the counters maintained by the Commercial Tax Dept., and other Depts. The DG, ACB has recommended departmental action against 16 officers/staff members (i.e., 10 regular staff and 1 DEO of Revenue Commercial Tax Dept., 3 from Prohibition & Excise Dept., and 2 from Transport, Roads & Buildings Dept.) for violating Conduct Rules. The DG, ACB has recommended for terminating from the post of DEO in respect of Suspected Officer-16 Sri M.Venugopal Reddy and the CCST was requested to take action for his termination.

2. Whereas, in the reference 2nd read above, Govt., issued orders initiating common disciplinary proceedings against all 15 staff officers i.e., 1) Sri I.V.Ranga Rao, DCTO & AO (SO-1), 2) Sri Gangala Suresh Babu, ACTO (SO-2), 3) Sri Arani Gopal, ACTO (SO-3), 4) Sri Nagarajan Palani, Sr.Asst.& FAC ACTO (SO-4), 5) Sri B.Krishna Murthy, Sr.Asst.(SO-5), 6) Sri Dudde Prabhakar, Jr.Asst.(Jr.CTI) (SO-6), 7) Sri Syed Abdul Gafaar, Office

(P.T.O)

Subordinate (SO-7), 8) Sri Maddileti Muniraja, Office Subordinate (SO-8), 9) Sri K.S.Narendra Kumar, Jr.Asst.(SO-9), 10) Sri Maredupalli Ananda Naidu, Hamali (SO-10), C.T.Dept., 11) Sri Vasagiri Madhusudhan, Motor Vehicle Inspector (SO-11), 12) Sri Bepari Nanne Saheb, Head Constable (SO-12), Transport Dept., 13) Sri Gudluru Prasanth Vijay Kumar, Inspector (SO-13), 14) Sri Golla Sandeep, Sub-Inspector (SO-14), 15) Sri A.Ravi Kumar, Head Constable (SO-15), Prohibition & Excise Dept., respectively under Sub-Rules (1) and (2) of Rule 24 of the A.P.Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991.

3. Whereas, in the references 3rd read above, Govt., issued orders framing articles of charges against the 15 (fifteen) Charged Officers. Whereas, in the references 4th and 5th read above, Govt., issued orders appointing Sri C.Venugopal, Assistant Commissioner, O/o.DC (CT), Chittoor and Smt.P.Padmavati, CTO-I Circle, Chittoor as Inquiring Authority and Presenting Officer respectively for conducting regular inquiry into the charges framed against the officers of Integrated Check Post, Naraharipet, Chittoor district.

4. Whereas, in the reference 6th read above, the Chief Commissioner of State Tax has furnished the inquiry report submitted by Sri C.Venugopal and requested the Govt., to take appropriate action. It was observed that the report only covered the (10) C.T. Dept., personnel. No report was submitted for the remaining (5) Charged Officers from the Transport and Prohibition & Excise Departments and the reasons for not conducting an inquiry into the charges against them were unclear.

5. Whereas, in the reference 7th read above, Govt., issued orders appointing Sri P.John Stevenson, Joint Commissioner (ST), Chittoor as Inquiring Authority to conduct inquiry into the charges framed against the remaining five (05) Charged Officers i.e., 3 Prohibition & Excise Dept., officials and (02) Transport Dept., officials respectively.

6. Whereas, in the reference 11th read above, the CCST has stated that the Jt. Commissioner (ST), Chittoor Division & Inquiry Authority has submitted inquiry report along with his findings on each article of charges against the Charged Officers pertaining to other Departments. During the course of inquiry, it found that Sri A.Ravi Kumar was expired on 15-12-2017 and his son Sri A.Charan Teja submitted a death certificate issued by Registrar (Birth & Death), District Hospital, Chittoor, and requested to take necessary action on the Charged Officer was expired. Whereas, in the reference 13th read above, Govt., issued orders abating further action against Sri A.Ravi Kumar, Prohibition & Excise Head Constable, who expired on 15.12.2017, subject to recovery of loss, if any, from his terminal benefits, in terms of Rule-9(7) of A.P.Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

7. Whereas, in the reference 12th read above, the inquiry report has been communicated to the 9 charged officers 1) Sri I.V.Ranga Rao, DCTO & AO of ICP (CT), 2) Sri B.Krishna Murthy, Sr.Asst.(CT), 3) Sri Dudde Prabhakar, Jr.Asst.(CT), 4) Sri Syed Abdul Gafaar, O.S.(CT), 5) Sri M.Muniraja, O.S.(CT), 6) Sri K.S.Narendra Kumar, Jr.Asst.(CT), 7) Sri M.Ananda Naidu, Hamali (CT), 8) Sri G.P.Vijay Kumar, Prohibition & Excise Inspector, P&E Dept., 9) Sri G.Sandeep, Prohibition & Excise Sub-Inspector, P&E Dept. Government have disagreed with the findings of Inquiry Officer in respect of 5 charged officers 1) Sri Gangala Suresh Babu, ACTO, 2) Sri Arani Gopal, ACTO, 3) Sri Nagarajan Palani, Sr.Asst., & ACTO (FAC), 4) Sri V.Madhusudhan, MVI and 5) Sri B.Nanne Saheb, Transport Head Constable and accordingly inquiry report along with dis-agreement factors were communicated to the 5 charged officers under sub-rule (2) of Rule-21 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991 to submit their written representation if any in the matter with 15 days.

(Contd.,3)

8. Whereas, in the reference 14th read above, the CCST has stated that the Jt. Commissioner (ST), Chittoor Nodal Division has forwarded served copy of the Govt.Memo in the reference 12th read above and inquiry report along with representations of the Charged Officers and the same were forwarded to the Government and requested to take necessary action in the matter. After a detailed examination of the 5 Charged Officers written representation on the factors of disagreement of the Inquiry report, it is concluded that the defense of all Charged Officers are not convincing. Hence, their charges are substantiated due on their failure of to explain of unaccounted seized money; neglect of duty and the circumstantial evidences. Out of 5 Charged Officers 2 charged officers are retired from service on attaining the age of superannuation and further action will taken under Rule 9 of AP Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

9. Government after careful examination of the entire matter, have decided to impose a penalty of withholding (02) two annual grade increments without cumulative effect against the 03 (three) Charged Officers i.e., 1) Sri Gangala Suresh Babu, ACTO (CT) (SO-2), 2) Sri Nagarajan Palani, Sr.Asst., & ACTO (FAC) (SO-4) and 3) Sri Vasagiri Madhusudhan, Motor Vehicle Inspector (SO-11), Transport Department, respectively as the Government have disagreed with the findings of Inquiry Officer and the charges framed against them are proved.

10. Accordingly, Government hereby impose a penalty of withholding (02) two annual grade increments without cumulative effect against the 03 (three) Charged Officers i.e., 1) Sri Gangala Suresh Babu, ACTO (CT) (SO-2), 2) Sri Nagarajan Palani, Sr.Asst., & ACTO (FAC) (SO-4) and 3) Sri Vasagiri Madhusudhan, Motor Vehicle Inspector (SO-11), Transport Department, respectively.

11. The Chief Commissioner of State Tax, AP, Kunchanapalli, Guntur district shall take necessary further action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

PEEYUSH KUMAR
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMNET

To
The individuals concerned (through the Chief Commissioner of State Tax, A.P., Kunchanapalli, Guntur district)
The Chief Commissioner of State Tax, Andhra Pradesh, Kunchanapalli, Guntur district
The Transport, Roads and Buildings Department.
The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, A.P.Vigilance Commission, Secretariat, Velagapudi
The Director General, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, 2nd Floor, NTR district, A.P., Vijayawada
SF/SCs.

// FORWARDED:: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER